

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 211715  
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-02 /013 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MACASEY:DWL  
APPROVED BY NEA:MDRAPER  
NEA/ARN:WNHOWELL  
M/CT:RDOTSON  
NEA/RA:DLABRIE

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P 211827Z AUG 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USINT BAGHDAD PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 211715

FOR PRINOFF PECK FROM DRAPER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, EAIR, IZ

SUBJECT: DISCUSSIONS ON TERRORISM

1. DURING DAVID MACK'S CONSULTATIONS, WE DISCUSSED OUR INFORMAL DIALOGUE IN WASHINGTON WITH IRAQI DIPLOMATS ON IRAQ'S SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. WE DECIDED THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF WE COULD EXPAND OUR EFFORTS TO INCLUDE SIMILAR, INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS IN BAGHDAD, AT TIMES AND OCCASIONS YOU FEEL APPROPRIATE. SINCE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE CONTINUE TO REMIND THE IRAQIS OF THE NEGATIVE IMPLICATIONS OF THEIR SUPPORT, WE BELIEVE THAT INITIATING LOW-KEY DISCUSSIONS IN BAGHDAD WILL HELP UNDERLINE OUR CONCERNS ABOUT THIS ISSUE, AS WELL AS REINFORCE THE REPRESENTATIONS WE ARE MAKING HERE.

2. THE PRESENT MAY NOT BE THE BEST MOMENT FOR GETTING  
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INTO THE SPECIFICS OF AN IRAQI SUPPORT FOR TERRORIST GROUPS SUCH AS ABU NIDAL. WITH THE WAVE OF ASSASSINATIONS AND BOMBINGS GOING ON AMONG THE IRAQIS, THE ABU NIDAL GROUP AND FATAH, IN A MARVELOUS ABOUT FACE WE COULD BE ACCUSED OF DOING FATAH'S BIDDING. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE NATURE OF IRAQI INVOLVEMENT HAS NEVER BEEN SO EXPOSED, AND THERE MAY BE SOME WAY OF YOUR WEAVING THIS FACT INTO ONE

OF YOUR REGULAR EXCHANGES WITH KEY IRAQIS.

3. WHEN YOU DO DECIDE TO INITIATE DISCUSSIONS, YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL NOT TO GET INVOLVED IN THE ISSUE OF POSSIBLE US DENIALS OF EXPORT LICENSES FOR COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT AND SIMILAR EQUIPMENT. WHILE I DID NOTE OUR ACTIONS AGAINST LIBYA IN THIS REGARD IN MY MARCH DEMARCHE TO KHATEEB, OUR PRESENT POLICY ON EXPORT LICENSING OF CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT FOR TERRORIST SUPPORTERS IS CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW (IN CONNECTION WITH THE BOEING SALE TO LIBYA). THEREFORE YOU SHOULD NOT RAISE THE ISSUE UNTIL THE RESULTS OF THAT REVIEW ARE IN HAND. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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